Panel of advertising agencies in SR

3294. SHRI S.S. CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 5239 given in the Rajya Sabha on 9th May, 2003 and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that two advertising agencies which have been discredited by the Indian Newspaper Society and having dues over crores of rupees payable to members publications have been continuing in the panel of advertising agencies of Southern Railway ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not disqualifying them from the panel;

(c) whether there is nexus between the concerned agencies and officials of Southern Railway; and

(d) the action to be taken by the Government against such officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) One of the six accredited advertising agencies, empanelled by Southern Railway for the period 2002-04, has been put on notice by Indian Newspaper Society for disaccredition in July, 2002. Since then, Southern Railway has stopped release of advertisements through the said agency.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Golden hour scheme

†3295. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have decided to undertake 'golden hour scheme' to ensure that relief and medical team approach the victims within 60-90 minutes in case of rail accident;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount estimated to be spent on said scheme; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.